

GEORGIA CENTER FOR NONPROFITS
2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The lens through which we view the world frames our perspective, and influences how we make decisions.



INFRASTRUCTURE CREATES BEAUTIFUL THINGS



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for NONPROFITS

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MARGARET THATCHER ONCE REMARKED –



“You and I arrive here by rail
and road, but economists
travel on infrastructure.”

Indeed, the lens through which we view the world frames our perspective, and influences how we make decisions. As global citizens, we live in an increasingly complex world in which economic, environmental and humanitarian crises are increasingly playing out – not in some far flung place – but in our daily lives and local communities.

As a result, our view of infrastructure has changed. Traditional infrastructure – roads, electricity, telephone – is a given. Its products of transportation, energy, and communication are the basics required just to get in the game. But, as society responds to the challenges of a competitive global economy and the interdependent geo-political arena, the concept of infrastructure has been reframed. We now understand that an essential product of our society’s infrastructure must be quality of life.

Quality of life – a clean environment, cultural and educational opportunities, healthcare and affordable housing are the products of a vital and active nonprofit sector. These are also the basic requirements for attracting and keeping talented people in the new economy; the differentiators of economically competitive communities where businesses seek to expand or locate; and the indicators of a healthy community. The nonprofit sector is the vital infrastructure that frames and supports quality of life in today’s society.

Wise architects understand that if we are to build soaring structures, the foundations to support them must be proportionally as deep. Therefore, our vision for the thriving community of the 21st century must also contain a definition of infrastructure that includes the contributions of the nonprofit sector. We must attend to the health and welfare of this system of community support as vigorously as we attend to other infrastructure systems such as roads and water.

Therefore, while many regard nonprofits as causes, we, at the Georgia Center for Nonprofits, see them as the business structures that support the quality of life infrastructure in our communities.

On the outside, nonprofit success looks like a mother getting a week’s worth of groceries for her growing boys, or a couple taking a morning run down a beautiful park path. On the inside, success looks like a well planned strategy,





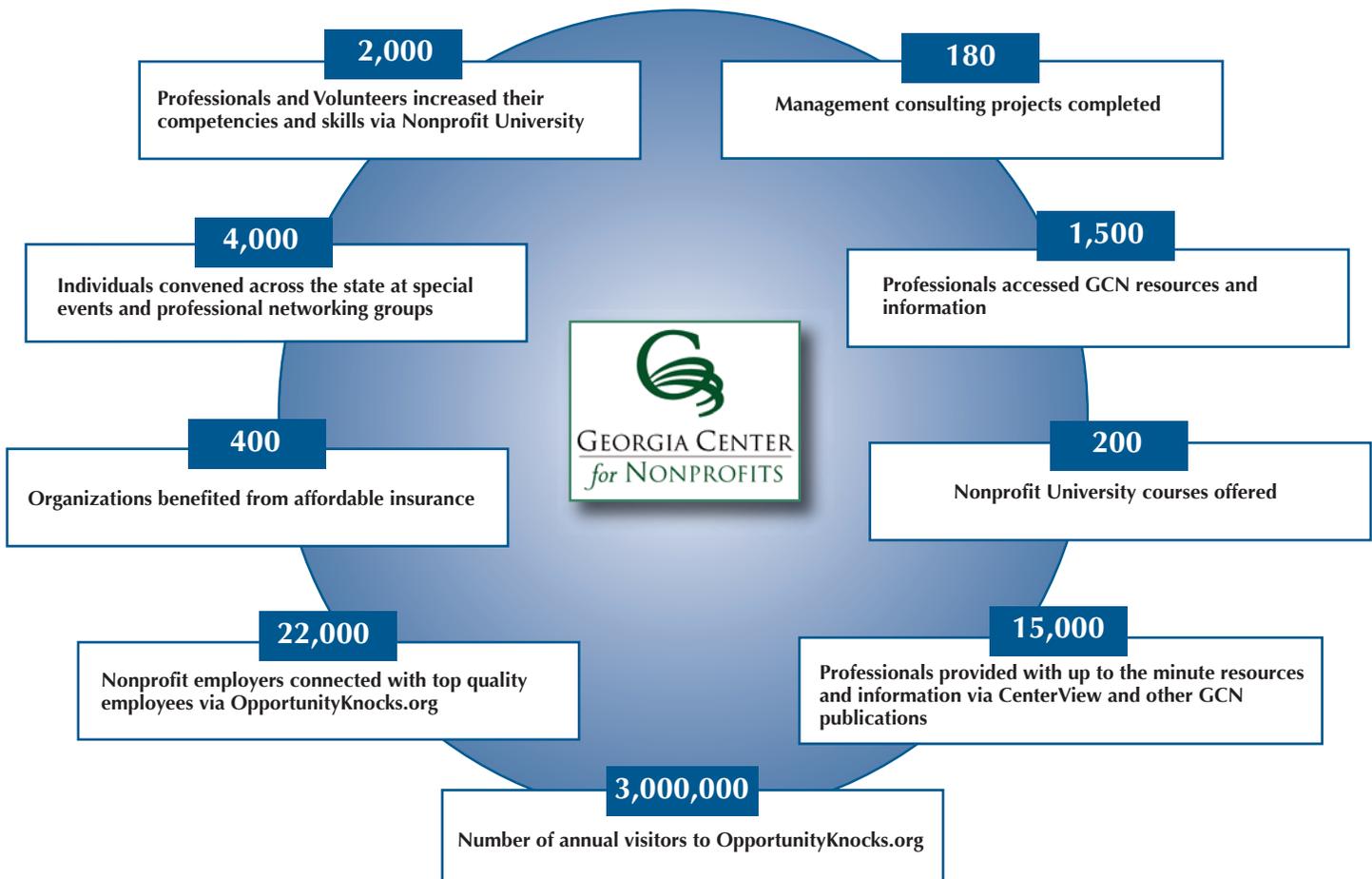
performance excellence, innovative thinking, collaborative effort, and leadership. The Georgia Center for Nonprofits works to improve the management and governance of nonprofits so that they can become more successful. Thus, as we conduct our work, we approach it with x-ray vision, looking through the cause to the underlying structures and relationships that support and drive success because we understand that *infrastructure creates beautiful things*.

Our Impact

The theme of this annual report is about seeing through the obvious and recognizing the role that internal infrastructure plays in getting results. We invite you to borrow our x-ray vision glasses and explore the Center’s impact.

The Georgia Center for Nonprofits’ goal is always to increase nonprofits’ impact on their communities, by helping them to be sustainable, well-managed and well-governed organizations. Toward this goal the Center offers innovative resources and services that address the most pressing business and governance issues facing nonprofits.

The impact of the Georgia Center for Nonprofits’ capacity building work is broad reaching. The Georgia Center for Nonprofits is the largest organization of its kind in the country and the only organization of its kind in the state, serving more than 9,000 nonprofit professionals and 3,000 organizations each year. In 2008, the Center’s impact included:





Financials 2008

EXPENSES



* Including training, consulting, information, membership, advocacy and job services

REVENUE AND SUPPORT



* Including membership dues, workshop income, employment services income, consulting and commission income, product sales and investment returns

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